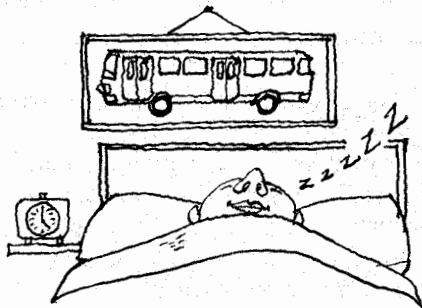


UNIT 2 Present simple (I do)

a) Study this example situation:



Alex is a bus driver. But now he is asleep in bed.
So:
He is *not* driving a bus (he is asleep).
But: He drives a bus.
This is the *present simple* tense:
I/we/you/they **drive**
he/she/(it) **drives**

We use the present simple to talk about things in general. We are not thinking only about the present. We use it to say that something happens all the time or repeatedly, or that something is true in general. It is not important whether the action is happening at the time of speaking:

- The earth goes round the sun.
- Nurses look after patients in hospitals.
- In Britain most of the shops close at 5.30 p.m.

Remember that we say **he/she/it -s**. Don't forget the s:

- I work in a bank. Barry works in a shop.

b) We use **do/does** to make questions and negative sentences:

do I/we/you/they } work? does he/she/it }	I/we/you/they don't } work he/she/it doesn't }
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- Excuse me, do you **speak** English?
- 'Would you like a cigarette?' 'No, thanks. I **don't** smoke.'
- **What does** this word **mean**? (*not* 'What means this word?')
- Rice **doesn't** grow in Britain.

For questions see also Unit 49.

c) We use the present simple when we say how often we do things:

- I get up at 8 o'clock every **morning**. (*not* 'am getting')
- **How often** do you go to the dentist?
- Ann **doesn't often** drink tea.
- In summer Tom **usually plays** tennis twice a week.

d) Note that we say 'Where do you come from?' (= Where are you from?):

- Where **do you come from**? (*not* 'Where are you coming from?')
- He **comes from** Japan. (*not* 'He is coming from Japan.')

e) When you make a *suggestion*, you can say **Why don't you ...?**:

- 'I'm tired.' 'Why **don't you go** to bed early?'

UNIT 2 Exercises

2.1 In this exercise you have to put the verb into the correct form.

Examples: Water boils (boil) at 100 degrees centigrade.
George doesn't go (not/go) to the cinema very often.
How many languages do you speak (you/speak)?

- 1 The swimming bath (open) at 9.00 and (close) at 18.30 every day.
- 2 What time (the banks / close) in Britain?
- 3 I have a car but I (not/use) it very often.
- 4 How many cigarettes (you/smoke) a day?
- 5 'What (you/do)?' 'I'm an electrical engineer.'
- 6 'Where (your father / come) from?' 'He (come) from Scotland.'
- 7 If you need money, why (you/not/get) a job?
- 8 I (play) the piano, but I (not/play) very well.
- 9 I don't understand the word 'deceive'. What ('deceive' / mean)?

2.2 This time you have to read some sentences and correct them. The English is correct but the information is wrong. Write two correct sentences each time.

Example: The sun goes round the earth. The sun doesn't go round the earth.
The earth goes round the sun.

- 1 The sun rises in the west.
- 2 Mice catch cats.
- 3 Carpenters make things from metal.
- 4 The River Amazon flows into the Pacific Ocean.

2.3 Now you have to use these sentences to make questions. Begin your question with the word(s) in brackets.

Examples: Tom plays tennis. (How often?) How often does Tom play tennis?
I get up in the morning. (What time / usually?) What time do you usually get up?

- 1 Ann watches television. (How often?) How often does Ann watch television?
- 2 I write to my parents. (How often?) How often do you write to your parents?
- 3 I have dinner in the evening? (What time / usually?) What time do you usually have dinner?
- 4 Tom works. (Where?) Where does Tom work?
- 5 I go to the cinema. (How often?) How often do you go to the cinema?
- 6 People do stupid things. (Why?) Why do people do stupid things?
- 7 The car breaks down. (How often?) How often does the car break down?